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TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF POWER

MESSAGE

FROM

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

TRANSMITTING

TEMPORARY TRANSFER OF POWER TO THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JULY 13, 1985 (legislative day of Monday, JULY 8, 1985).—Ordered to be Printed

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THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, July 13, 1985.

Hon. STROM THURMOND,
President Pro Tempore, U.S. Senate.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I am about to undergo surgery during which time I will be briefly and temporarily incapable of discharging the Constitutional powers and duties of the Office of the President of the United States.

After consultation with my Counsel and the Attorney General, I am mindful of the provisions of Section 3 of the 25th Amendment to the Constitution and of the uncertainties of its application to such brief and temporary periods of incapacity. I do not believe that the drafters of this Amendment intended its application to situations such as the instant one.

Nevertheless, consistent with my long-standing arrangement with Vice President George Bush, and not intending to set a precedent binding anyone privileged to hold this Office in the future, I have determined and it is my intention and direction that Vice President George Bush shall discharge those powers and duties in my stead commencing with the administration of anesthesia to me in this instance.

I shall advise you and the Vice President when I determine that I am able to resume the discharge of the Constitutional powers and duties of this Office.

May God bless this Nation and us all,

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
Washington, July 13, 1985.

Hon. Strom Thurmond,
President Pro Tempore,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Following up on my letter to you of this date, please be advised I am able to resume the discharge of the Constitutional powers and duties of the Office of the President of the United States. I have informed the Vice President of my determination and my resumption of those powers and duties.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN.

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